

*Ontario Ministry of Treasury
Economics and Intergovernmental
Affairs. a pamphlet*

Priorities for the Northwest

*CA2QNTNR
74 P62*



Ontario's first regional priority budget

The Ontario Government's Regional Priority Budget this year will provide \$9.3 million of special funds in a continuing program to solve the problems of regional disparity in Northwestern Ontario.

Last year, Northwestern Ontario was the first of the five provincial regions to receive special financing — \$2.4 million for roads, airport navigation equipment, geological surveys, etc. — under Ontario's Design for Development program. This year, the Ontario Government has approved 28 projects in the Resource Development, Social Development and Justice fields.

Regional Priority Budget financing is over and above regular provincial spending in the region.

for the Future

Under Design for Development, Northwestern Ontario has established its long-term goals:

- to create 18,000 new jobs over the next 20 years;
- to expand and diversify its economy;
- to strengthen its resource-based industries;
- to provide better transportation and communications systems;
- to improve health, education, culture, recreation, social and government services.

The economy of Northwestern Ontario is dominated by the forestry, mining and tourism industries. It is heavily dependent on adequate, accessible supplies of the natural resources needed by each of these industries.

Regional Priority Budget projects will contribute to the region's economic expansion and diversification by opening up its resource areas, while assisting with the orderly growth of its urban communities. Individual human needs have also been considered and various projects will relate directly to the region's social needs.

a 51-mile road

One major Resource Development project financed through the Regional Priority Budget is construction of a 51-mile road connecting Dryden and Fort Frances. The road was begun in 1973 and will be completed in 1978. Construction costs last year totalled \$500,000. This year another \$960,000 will be spent.

Designed primarily to help in developing the forestry industry potential in the area, the road will also be used for mining exploration and tourism development. One of the major social benefits which will result is the saving of 72.9 miles travelling distance between the two communities.

By providing financing for the Dryden-Fort Frances road, and for the other Regional Priority Budget projects listed in this brochure, the Ontario Government is working to help Northwestern Ontario meet its special needs.

Design for Development

Northwestern Ontario's Regional Priority Budget evolved from the Ontario Government's regional development program, Design for Development.

Because economic growth and social development do not occur evenly through the province, Design for Development was initiated in 1966 to guide, encourage and assist orderly and rational development in each of the province's five regions.

Its basic aims are:

- to enhance the quality of life for the people of Ontario;
- to encourage private enterprise to prosper within a healthy and balanced community;
- to conserve natural resources for the benefit of all the people of Ontario;
- to improve the effectiveness of provincial services in each region.

in the Northwest

Northwestern Ontario was the first region to complete Design for Development — Phase Two policy-making, and to establish its long-term goals.

After a socio-economic study of the region was published in October, 1970, a series of public meetings was held throughout the region, under the auspices of the Northwestern Ontario Development Council. Over 30 briefs were submitted by municipalities, associations and private individuals.

As a result, Northwestern Ontario adopted the strategy of focussing economic and population growth in strategically-located centres of opportunity and of stemming migration from the region while encouraging the movement of people from depressed areas within the region.



Ministry of Treasury
Economics and
Intergovernmental
Affairs

The Honourable John White minister
The Honourable Donald Irvine minister without portfolio
A. Rendall Dick deputy minister



regional priority budget projects

It should be noted that many of the projects will carry over more than one year and that the funding indicated is for this year only.

Resource Development Projects

a. Ministry of the Environment	
Thunder Bay Infrastructure Assistance* To assist the city in upgrading its sewage system for present and future development	\$2,625,000
Ignace Sewage Treatment Plant Expansion* An engineering study in preparation for expanding the system	7,500
b. Ministry of Labour	
Identification of Manpower Adjustment Needs* To identify employment adjustments needed to meet the region's long-term goals	32,500
c. Ministry of Natural Resources	
Lake of the Woods Land Use Plan To prepare a general land use plan for this area which has been identified as a key to recreation and tourism development within the region	75,000
Lakehead Waterfront Study To prepare a comprehensive study of urban land uses in the residential, industrial, recreation and transportation sectors	40,000
Resource Access Roads	
To assist in making adequate supplies of natural resources accessible to the industries dependent on them, the following roads will be constructed, upgraded or extended:	
Marchington*	550,000
Mathieu Township*	75,000
Wolfpup*	17,500
Burchell Lake*	212,500
Turtle River	260,000
Chisamore Lake	135,000
Pakeshkan	40,000
Recreation Proposal — English River*	17,000
To develop canoe routes and campsites and thus offer employment to native peoples	
Lake Superior North Shore Development To prepare an implementation plan for the North Shore Lake Superior Recreation Study	50,000

Fisheries Management Program	
To accelerate the present fisheries management programs in Lake Superior	
Trappers Assistance Program To conduct workshops to assist trappers in developing the industry	10,000
Lake Development Planning To prepare plans for the development and use of the region's lakes	15,000
Wild Rice Management Program* To determine the physical capability of the region for the expansion of wild rice harvesting	25,000
Boundary Waters Canoe Route Study To continue a program of canoe route planning and development of two historic fur trade routes	10,000
Extension of the Mineral Exploration Assistance Program to Atikokan To extend this ongoing program, which has already been operating in the Red Lake, Geraldton and Cobalt areas to the Atikokan area	100,000
Cottage Lot Studies To conduct field studies and develop new concepts and methods in developing cottage lots in the region	100,000
Crown Land Camping To regulate camping on Crown Land by directing people to pre-selected, suitable, equipped and maintained sites	225,000
Ogoki-Nipigon Fisheries Studies To assess the impact of the present Ogoki diversion to Lake Nipigon on resources	30,000
d. Ministry of Transportation and Communications	
Construction of the Dryden-Fort Frances Road To continue construction of this 51-mile road begun in 1973	960,000
Highway 599 Improvement* To reconstruct Hwy. 599 north of Savant Lake as needed by the forestry and mining industries	1,250,000
e. Ministry of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs	
Thunder Bay Area Industrial Complex Feasibility Study* To research the economic, social and environmental feasibility of establishing an industrial complex	75,000

Lake St. Joseph Area Development* To provide infrastructure assistance for a new township associated with developments in the area	1,500,000
Interim Ontario Northlands Subsidiary Agreement Evaluation* To assess the effectiveness of the sub-agreement and its projects	25,000

Social Development Projects

a. Ministry of Colleges and Universities	
Mobile Teaching Laboratories To provide Lakehead University with two mobile teaching laboratories so it can offer off-campus geology, forestry, chemistry and physics courses at Atikokan, Dryden, Fort Frances, Geraldton, Kenora, Manitouwadge, Marathon, Nipigon, Red Rock, Red Lake, Sioux Lookout, Terrace Bay	110,000
Books by Mail Service To enable the Northwestern Regional Library System Board to begin a book-by-mail service to isolated regional residents	20,000
b. Ministry of Community and Social Services	
Design of an Integrated Service Delivery System To provide adequate income maintenance and social services for the Kenora and Rainy River districts	61,700
Indigenous Teaching Homemaking Service* To teach such basic skills as lease-signing, care of the home, etc. to residents in unorganized communities	10,500
Life Skills Course* To provide basic education and life skills training for residents in isolated, unorganized communities	31,250

Justice Projects

a. Ministry of Consumer & Commercial Relations	
Consumer Education Program Development To determine consumer needs in the region and to prepare a consumer education and information program to meet those needs	50,000
b. Ministry of Correctional Services	
Native People as Volunteer Probation Officers To acquaint chiefs and band councils with probation techniques so that native probationers can be supervised by other native people	54,000

Life Skills Training at Kenora Jail To develop and implement a social education program at the jail	20,000
c. Ministry of the Solicitor General	
Policing Among Native Peoples To implement a plan to increase the effectiveness of policing among the region's native peoples and to encourage recruitment of Indians to the Ontario Provincial Police	300,000

*These projects have received equal funding from the Government of Canada under an agreement the Ontario Government signed with the Federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion in Thunder Bay, May 31, 1974.